

**ANXIETY IN ANDREA BERLOFF'S *WORLD TRADE CENTRE*:
A PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH**



RESEARCH PAPER

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

People might feel scared or panic when they got a terrible problems or disaster. Fear occurs and influences their mind, till they are confused what should do to solve it. Disaster is one of factors that caused people feel so scared and panic. Besides, anxiety might occur because of that factor also. It is a reflection of human's pressure of something.

Anxiety is the feeling that appears inside of the personality when the feeling of being afraid is bigger than their brave. It is also possible that anxiety occurs because the problem is too hard to solve. It happens because they feel that something will threaten them. This act can change person's personality. They will look rather different than usual. Having the feeling of anxiety motivates person to do something to free the external danger, to inhibit the instinctual impulse, or to obey the voice of conscience (Hall and Lindzey, 1985: 42). It has purpose that they can feel safely or more calmly in facing the realities that make them feel anxious. The circumstances of life inevitably place the personality under strain, even though they have many resources for coping with their problem. Their motives are not easily satisfied because they must think again what way they have to choose to solve their problem. Furthermore, the way that they use to reduce their anxiety is only for a while. So, later they have to face their own problem. The way that helps people to reduce the tension is called defense mechanism. Defense mechanism is mental

process that has goal to reduce the anxiety and that shares two particular characteristics: they operate unconsciously and distort reality (Hall and Lindzey, 1985:45). In other word, the use of ego defense mechanism can give the feeling of safety from being anxious. Freud (in Hjelle and Ziegler, 1976: 38) said that defense mechanism is a strategy used by the individual to defend against open expression of *id* impulses and posing super ego pressure.

Here, the researcher wants to explore the anxiety and the ego defense mechanism on the major character's personality that shown in *World Trade Centre*, a movie, written by Kyle Florence. *World Trade Centre* was shot from 19 October 2005 - 10 February 2006 and directly released after the last shot of the movie. *World Trade Centre* tells about The true story of Port Authority police officers John McLoughlin and Will Jimeno, who, while patrolling the Port Authority Bus Terminal in Midtown Manhattan, see a plane fly low overhead. As all of the police officers return to the station, they see the TV, and find that the North Tower of the World Trade Center has been hit by a plane. Sergeant McLoughlin assigns many of the officers to assist in an evacuation attempt of the (still undamaged) South Tower, and they board a commandeered Metropolitan Transit Authority bus. On the bus they hear reports that the South Tower has also been hit.

When they arrive at the site of the World Trade Center, they see many disturbing things, including one of the first victims jumping out of the tower to their death. As Jimeno drops off their police equipment in 5 World Trade Center, officers proceed to get safety equipment and walk into the concourse of

the towers. The group consists of McLoughlin, Jimeno, Dominick Pezzulo, and Antonio Rodrigues.

An officer, named Chris Amoroso, runs along to tell them of the other events such as the Pentagon being hit by what they believed to be a missile, and the South Tower being hit by another plane. The group does not believe that the South Tower has been hit. As the group prepares to enter the North Tower, the buildings begin to rumble. Looking around, McLoughlin realizes that the South Tower is collapsing onto them, and their only chance of survival is to run into the service elevator shaft. Chris trips and doesn't have time to get up. Rodrigues isn't able to get to the shaft in time. McLoughlin, Jimeno and Pezzulo manage to escape the huge amounts of dust and rubble flying down from the South Tower. But as the rubble continues to crush the elevator shaft, the three are knocked out.

As the group wakes up, Pezzulo realizes he can free himself, and manages to go nearer to Jimeno in the rubble, who, along with McLoughlin, has survived the collapse of the South Tower. As Pezzulo becomes optimistic that they will live, the rumbling starts up again, as the North Tower is now collapsing as well. Although Jimeno and McLoughlin are unharmed, Pezzulo is fatally wounded and, after firing his gun up through a gap in the rubble to try to alert rescuers to their position, dies.

After Jimeno and McLoughlin spend hours under the rubble, two United States Marines, Dave Karnes and Jason Thomas, who are searching for survivors of the tower collapse, find Jimeno and McLoughlin and call for help to dig them out. Their families are called and told that their husbands have

walked out of the rubble in perfect health, but this is wrong; in fact, they are both in danger of dying. When the wives arrive, they are told that their husbands are in the garage and rush to meet them. McLoughlin's family manages to find him just before he is pulled into the operating room to be put in a medically induced coma.

On opening weekend it gained approximately \$18,730,762 in the U.S. and Canada. As of October 25, 2006 the film has made \$70,278,893 at the North American Box-Office. Worldwide the film has taken in over \$162,000,000. The film garnered moderate critical acclaim, with a 70% "Fresh" approval rating on Rotten Tomatoes and a 66% metascore at Metacritic. The film also got rewards such as Best Picture and Best Director.

The storyline for the film, as stated, was based on the stories of a few Port Authority police who survived the collapse of the building while being trapped for hours in the rubble. At the beginning we are introduced to each of the characters and their families. It's enough to get involved with each of them but leaves enough room to elaborate as the film unfolds. The film moves rather nicely without going too fast or slow. The vast amount of the film takes place after the towers collapse while the men are trapped in the rubble. The story is told through the trapped police officers current situation as well as what their families are going through at the same time. This film is not ground-breaking work, but it wasn't meant to be. It was meant to tell the story of a few brave men and their families and their experiences during September 11th, and it accomplished this very well.

Considering the above explanatory ideas, the researcher turns to analyze the movie by using psychoanalytic approach because of some considerations. The first reason is that McLoughlin's personality is the mirror of human being. He has the feeling of anxiety and confusion when he meets something. The second one is that the play has great possibility to know the phenomenon of psychological problems in the character. In this study the researcher encourages himself to give a title: *ANXIETY IN ANDREA BERLOFF'S WORLD TRADE CENTRE: A PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH*.

B. Literary Review

As long as the researcher knows, there has been other researcher who did a research about the play, namely Dini Sabtatiatun. The title to her research is "A Study on Frustration of Vasili Svetlovidoff in Anton Chekhov's Play *The Swan Song*: A Psychoanalytic Approach". In this occasion, the researcher tries to conduct the research paper on the anxiety that appears in major characters personality and the ego defense mechanism, which appears by using psychoanalytic perspective.

C. Problem Statement

The major problem of the study is "How is anxiety reflected in John McLoughlin's personality?"

D. Limitation of the Study

This study is limited to the anxiety that appears in John McLoughlin's personality because the problem arises and ego defense mechanism that he uses on facing the reality about the act that he did in the past and the influences that appears in his personality. This study uses A Psychoanalytic Approach.

E. Objective of the Study

Dealing with the statement above, the objectives of the studies are:

1. Analyzing the movie based on its structural elements
2. Analyzing the movie based on the psychoanalytic approach

F. Benefit of the Study

The benefits of the studies are:

1. Theoretical Benefit

This research paper has some benefits, which are to give additional contributions to literature researches dealing with Andrea Berloff's *World Trade Centre*.

2. Practical Benefit

This research paper has a practical benefit, which is to give deeper understanding about the content of the play, especially from the psychological aspect.

G. Research Method

1. Type of research

The researcher uses descriptive qualitative method. Here the researcher tries to relate the discussion of analysis based on the underlying theory.

2. Objects of the Research

The researcher takes Andrea Berloff's *World Trade Centre*, which contains the series of drama description. Here, the researcher tries to analyze the anxieties and the ego defense mechanisms that appear in the major character's personality.

3. Data Source

There are two types of data sources, namely:

a. Primary Data Source

The primary data source is the text of *World Trade Centre* by Andrea Berloff, particularly the dialogs, statement and action reflecting the anxiety of the story and the characters that supports the research.

b. Secondary Data Source

The secondary data source is other sources related to the primary data such as information about the director's biography, websites about the film, and other source supporting the analysis.

4. Technique of the Data Collection

The methods of collecting data in this research are as follows:

- a. Watching and comprehending the movie.
- b. Taking note of the important part in both primary and secondary data.
- c. Choose the approach which suitable of the movie.
- d. Analyzing the data of the research based on Sigmund Freud's theory.

5. Technique of the Data Analysis

The technique of Data Analysis in this study is descriptive and hermeneutic. Description means that the researcher interprets the text and content relating to the psychological condition of the major character, while hermeneutic interprets the script to find out the intension of the movie.

H. Research Paper Organization

Research paper organization is conducted to give a clear guidance in reading and understanding the content of the study. In order to have guidance to the reader in reading the whole content, this research paper is organized as follows:

Chapter I is introduction which consist of background of the study, literature review, problem of the study, objective of the study, limitation of the study, benefit of the study, and research method.

Chapter II is underlying theory. It covers notion of Psychoanalysis and System of Personality.

Chapter III is structural analysis which consists of structural elements and its discussion.

Chapter IV is Psychoanalytic analysis and its discussion. In this chapter the writer presents the data and data analysis.

Chapter V is conclusion and suggestion